

Term 3 Newsletter (Elephants)



Dear Family Members,

I cannot believe that we are in Term 3 already. We are officially approaching the halfway mark for the year which is rather scary. Hopefully, you're feeling refreshed, filled with mince pies (or similar) and had a blessed break.

Due to the update to our KS2 curriculum for Geography and History, I've been asked to adjust our originally expected topics. This means that we will be covering world war 2 with a focus on Dunkirk. I've also found that the children have covered quite a bit more of the Spanish curriculum than I was originally expecting (which is *fabuloso*) so I've updated that to match the children's needs too. Details all follow below – the Elephant class continue to be absolutely awesome at meeting all the new learning with such great enthusiasm, they are a joy to teach - I cannot wait to share all these new bits with them!

This newsletter aims to provide you with an overview of the main learning planned for this term, alongside other useful information. If you have any questions, concerns or worries, do come and talk to me. I am available via e-mail, (info@somerdaleet.org.uk), or at the end of the school day.

The Year Five team:

Jim McLaughlin
Class Teacher
Monday - Friday

Elizabeth 'Lily' King
Learning Support Worker
Mon +Wed (AM) - Thursday (PM)

Elizabeth 'Lily' King
PPA Cover Teacher
Friday (PM)

Enquiry Questions this term: What was the miracle of Dunkirk?

This term our enquiry question is grounded in History. With world war 2 being such an immense topic, we will be covering a wide range of age-appropriate learning but the planned focus for lesson sequence is detailed below.

- The outbreak of the war/Historical timeline of Dunkirk
- Explore what was evacuation like in Britain
- To understand what was rationing and why was it so important
- Understand the role and contribution of women to the war effort
- Explore what was the holocaust

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular strand:

Equality and Justice:

- the rights of other people living in other places
- participate in a human rights climate
- learn about other people who have made a positive impact through campaigning
- express my views in writing letters
- discuss issues at a local and global level
- develop an anti-racist charter

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.

[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(Y5\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Spelling

Children are expected to log in to Spelling Shed and play the games set as Assignments by their teacher. A new spelling list and set of assignments will be set each Monday after followed by a spelling quiz the following Monday in school.

The focus for spelling patterns are found on our medium term overview (see above link). Please follow the link on the overview to see the word lists for each week.

[Spelling Shed Home Use \(For weekly spellings including interactive games\)](#)

[Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.](#)

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, the expectation is that children practise their time tables at home. In Year 3 we learn 36 facts, in Year 4 we learn 21 more facts.

Year 3: 2x, 5x and 3x.

Year 4: 4x, 6x, 8x, 7x, 9x, 11x, 12x

[TTRS for Key Stage 2](#)

In upper key stage 2, children should continue to practise these facts to help with automaticity.

Your child has a log-in for Times Table Rock Stars so that they can practise their time tables at home.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Early Years](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)

[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

<p>Class Page You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.</p>	<p>Reading Records Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading over 4 times get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.</p>	<p>School Clothing Guidance Please see the page on our website for more information on appropriate clothing for school.</p>
<p>Library Day Our Library Day is on Thursday afternoons.</p> <p>Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.</p>	<p>PE Day Our PE days are Tuesdays (Tennis) and Thursdays (Tage Rugby).</p> <p>On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.</p>	<p>Preludes Music lessons return to Year 5</p>
<p>What does my child need to bring into school every day?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bookbag with reading record and reading level book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.) • Filled Water Bottle • Library book on library days 	<p>Healthy Snacks for Playtime In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.</p> <p>Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars. For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.</p> <p>For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.</p>	